UNEP Approach to Dust and Sandstorm (DSS) Issue in Northeast Asia

C. Konda
UNEP/ROAP

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ADB-GEF Project - I

- Objective
  - to promote establishment of a **regional cooperation mechanism** for prevention and control of dust and sandstorms (DSS) in Northeast Asia
- Two Major Components of the Master Plan
  - Phased program to establish a regional monitoring and early warning network of DSS
  - Investment strategy to strengthen mitigation measures to address root course of DSS

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ADB-GEF Project - II

- Participating Parties
  - China, Mongolia, Korea and Japan
  - ADB, UNEP, UNESCAP and UNCCD
- Budget
  - ADB: US$ 0.5 million (RTA)
  - GEF: US$ 0.5 million (MSP)
- Period
  - 18 months from January 2003

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UNEP Role in the Project

- Implementing agency for GEF part
- Chair of Technical Committee for the component on regional monitoring and early warning network
- Prepare a report on the phased program to establish regional monitoring and early warning network

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Time Frame

- 1st Joint SC/TC Meeting (Mar. 03, Manila)
  - Selection of consultants and experts
  - 1st Workshop (Aug. 03, Beijing)
  - Missions to four countries
  - 2nd Workshop (Nov. 03, Seoul)
  - Review of the draft by small group
- 2nd Joint SC/TC Meeting (Feb. 04, Bangkok)

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Major Findings

- Perception, definition, monitoring item and method, current capacity, needs and expectation, etc. are all different from country to country.
- Although a few bilateral cooperation projects are being partially undertaken, there is no multi-lateral/regional cooperation mechanism.
- Helping Mongolia develop its national capacity is one of key points from the regional context.

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Expected Outputs - I

- Proposal for regional network for early warning - Indicators for monitoring
  - Level 1 sites: Visibility (*instrumented*)
  - Level 2 sites: Visibility + TSP or PM_{10}
  - Level 3 sites: Visibility + TSP or PM_{10} + Lidar
- Note:
  - at the designated stations for data sharing
  - with a common measuring method and a common operational manual

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Expected Outputs - II

- Proposal for regional network for early warning - Phased regional networks
  - Phase 1:
    - by minimal designated stations
  - Phase 2:
    - by expanded designated stations
    - with special focus on Mongolia
  - Phase 3:
    - refining of forecasting methods
    - long-term forecasting using ground surface monitoring data

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The Way Forward

- **Implementation of the Regional Master Plan to be formulated**
- **Possible institutional integration in the future for various transboundary air pollution issues:**
  - ◆ **Acid deposition (EANET)**
  - ◆ **Atmospheric Brown Cloud (ABC)**
  - ◆ **Haze Pollution**
  - ◆ **Dust and sandstorms (DSS)**

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